

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-18

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR SU

SUBJECT:WASHINGTON OIL CONFERENCE

REF: KHARTOUM 261

1. SECRETARY KISSINGER (NOT REPEAT NOT PRESIDENT) MADE OPENING ADDRESS AT WASHINGTON OIL CONFERENCE. ADDRESS DELIVERED AT 10 A.M. FEB. 11. TEXT WILL BE CARRIED ON WIRELESS FILE. GENERAL COVERAGE OF THE CONFERENCE PLUS SUMMARIES OF STATEMENTS WILL BE BROADCAST IN ENGLISH ON REGULARLY SCHEDULED VOA PROGRAMS.

2. FOR POST'S INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE THE FOLLOWING EX-CERPTS FROM A PRESS CONFERENCE BY MR. DONALDSON AND MR. SONNENFELDT ON THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH:

Q. DO YOU INTEND TO ASSOCIATE THE PRODUCING COUNTRIES IN THE GROUP THAT WILL PREPARE THE NEXT CONFERENCE.

MR. SONNENFELDT: I THINK THAT IS REALLY UP TO THE GROUP AS IT PROCEEDS. WE DON'T HAVE ANY FIXED IDEAS. OBVIOUSLY, AT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SOME POINT IN THE PREPARATORY PROCESS, THAT WILL TAKE PLACE

IN SOME WAY. BUT WE DON'T WANT TO PREJUDGE NOW HOW AND WHEN IT OCCURS.

Q. WHEN THE INVITATIONS TO THIS CONFERENCE WERE SENT OUT ABOUT A MONTH AGO, THE SECRETARY SAID AT THAT TIME HE EXPECTED THE SECOND MEETING INVOLVING THE LDC'S WOULD BE AFTER A GAP OF ABOUT SIX WEEKS, AND THEN ABOUT A FURTHER SIX WEEKS BEYOND THAT FOR THE PRODUCERS. DOES THAT TIME-TABLE STILL HOLD?

MR. SONNENFELDT: WELL, I THINK THERE'S A REFERENCE IN THE SPEECH TO THE FIRST OF MAY AS A TARGET DATE FOR THE COMPLETION OF THIS CYCLE OF MEETINGS. I HAVEN'T ADDED IT UP TO SEE IF IT COMES TO TWELVE WEEKS. BUT ANYWAY THAT'S THE TIMEFRAME.

Q. ON PAGE 2, SPEAKING ABOUT THE EMBARGO, HE SAYS, "WE WILL DEAL WITH THIS ISSUE AND ASK FOR NO ASSISTANCE"? COULD YOU KINDLY ELABORATE AS TO WHAT HE MEANS BY THIS SENTENCE?

MR. SONNENFELDT: THAT STATEMENT SHOULD BE SEEN IN THE CONTEXT OF THIS CONFERENCE. THAT IS TO SAY, WE DIDN'T CALL A CONFERENCE TO ASK FOR ASSISTANCE IN DEALING WITH THE EMBARGO, AND WE DON'T INTEND TO USE THIS CONFERENCE FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Q. BACK TO THIS QUESTION OF AGREED RULES OF CONDUCT.

MR. DONALDSON: I THINK IN TERMS OF CONSUMING NATIONS, WHEN WE'RE TALKING ABOUT AGREED RULES OF CONDUCT WE'RE TALKING ABOUT A BASIC SET OF RULES OR CODE UNDER WHICH OIL PURCHASE ARRANGEMENTS WOULD BE MADE, A SELF-IMPOSED SET OF CONDUCT, IF YOU WILL, ON THE PURCHASING SIDE OF THE EQUATION. I DON'T THINK THAT WE'RE REFERRING IN THIS PART OF THE SPEECH TO THE ACTUAL TYPES OF DEALS THAT WOULD BE MADE FROM THE OTHER SIDE. I DON'T THINK WE'RE REFERRING TO -- I THINK WE ARE TALKING ABOUT THE BUYER SIDE OF THE EQUATION, IF YOU WILL. THAT IS OUR SIDE.

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Q. DOES THAT TALK ABOUT PRICES OR ABOUT SOME OTHER SORT OF POLITICAL AGREEMENTS THAT MIGHT GET INVOLVED IN OIL?

MR. DONALDSON: I THINK IT'S REFERRING TO THE TOTAL STRUCTURE OF THE ARRANGEMENTS TO PURCHASE THE COMMODITIES. PRICE IS A CONSIDERATION. KISSINGER

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